

State of Connecticut
Public Safety Interoperability Executive Committee
DESPP HQ – 1111 Country Club Road Room 349
Middletown, Connecticut
Tuesday January 15, 2019 1:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Welcome & Introductions:

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Chairman John G. Gustafson.
A quorum was established.

The following individuals participated:

D/C Regina-Rush Kittle	DESPP/DEMHS
Director William Hackett	DESPP/DEMHS
Chairman John Gustafson	DESPP/DEMHS
Brian Baldwin	North Central CT EMS – CMEDS
Nick Carlone	CT-DOT
Robert DiBella	Glastonbury EMD/CEMA
Vaughan Dumas	SW Regional Communications Center
Joe Gaudette	Region 1 ESF 2
Peter Giammarco	Verizon Wireless
Wayne Gronlund	Region 4 ESF 2- MCV 4 (via C/C)
Jared Heon	City of Ansonia
Rich LaSaracina	Mashantucket Tribal Nation
Marc Mikulski	Region 2
Gregg Prevost	VSECC
Judith Reynolds	DPH
Matt Valteau	DESPP/CTS
Keith Victor	West Hartford - Region 3 ESF 2 Chair
Scott Wright	DESPP/CTS (via C/C)
Jerry Zarwanski	DESPP/DSET

Director William Hackett provided an update on the transition to new state leadership and announced the newly appointed DESPP Commissioner James Rovella and Deputy Commissioner Regina Rush-Kittle.

D/C Rush-Kittle addressed the Committee.

Public Comment:

Peter Giammarco from Verizon Wireless reported on ongoing Verizon Wireless efforts to improve coverage. 8 Small Cells and 2 Macro sites activated from 12/12/18 to 1/15/19.

Meeting Minutes Approval:

A motion was made by Keith Victor, seconded by Scott Wright to accept the December 2018 minutes. All in favor.

SWIC Update:

(William Hackett)

Director Hackett announced he will resume his roles as the State's designated SWIC and SPOC. He thanked John Gustafson and Bob Drozynski for serving in an acting capacity on his behalf.

SIEC Chair Report:

(John Gustafson)

- Clarification on the process for Licensing 700 MHz Radio channels sent out; (email attached)
- Several MCV issues were brought out at a recent meeting with MCV holders; (meeting notes attached)
- The need to file an ICS 205 form as soon as possible when responding to or planning an event.
- The GAP reporting tool for Broadband Wireless service is being used, and reports are being made to ATT First Net, Verizon wireless is also participating and reports have been submitted to them for action.

Working Groups:

Technical Work Group – (Scott Wright)

- Distribution of subscriber units and interoperability portables
- Evaluation of new interoperability antennas
- Testing & evaluation of demo equipment
- Update on working with Verizon and FCC
 - John Gustafson provided history of interference issues and how CTS worked to provide standards to assist the private sector.
- Meetings w/municipal partners to build relationships
- Explanation of the use of the email reflector to insure coordination of Interoperability Channels

Broadband Wireless Working Group

- Finalizing FirstNet contract schedule to order services
- DESPP testing phones; transition to start in February
- Gap analysis to track problems will be passed on to carriers

CMED Working Group

- Meeting Coordination pending (conference call)

Training and Exercise Working Group

(Keith Victor and Wayne Gronlund)

- CASM accounts will be closed if no activity for 365 days. 24 hours sign-in period after re-activation.
- John Gustafson recommends participants enter the system because it has useful information.
- Field Day – 5 Hazmat Teams are coordinating.

Air Operations Communications Working Group

(Matt Valleau)

- Updated group on Life Star Demo @ CT State Police Academy.
- The group is looking at a late spring or early summer 2019 exercise.

FCC Region Updates (Region 8 & 19)

(Jerry Zarwanski)

- FCC has been impacted by government shutdown; limited level of service is available; electronic filings are accepted.
- Jerry Zarwanski briefed the D/C and group on Region 8 and 19 committees.
- Applications for 700 MHz from DESPP CTS unit are under review.
- Region 8 special conditions letter - action pending.
- Region 8 has an acting Chairman.
- Region 19 has released its 2019 meeting schedule (Schedule Attached)

Regional Reports

Region 1 – (Joe Gaudett)

- Meetings are held monthly
- Review and update of TIC Plan
- UASI Program
 - Funding received for USAI Radio System Maintenance

Region 2 – (Marc Mikulski)

- Reported on the progress of the upgrade to the SCAN System.

Region 3 – (Keith Victor)

- Reported on the multi town project to create a common channel system to facilitate mutual aid.
- Reported on Hartford County/Region 3 Communications Projects (Report Attached)

Region 4 – (Wayne Gronlund)

- ESF2 meets bi-monthly
- Upgrade Verizon modem on MCV4
- Conducted STOCs level training for EMDs in northern Region 4

Region 5 – No report

Tribal Nations – No report

State Agency Reports

DPH – OEMS – Mass Casualty Trailers on hold; 2 completed, 3 to be completed; DPH transition pending.

DOT – New Commissioner has been briefed; meeting of EM forming a committee for road working groups; Revamping outdated policies and procedures; Ops Center renovations at DOT.

Old Business:

John Gustafson reported on the ongoing issue of in building coverage. Current State Statute requires all new buildings to provide for coverage for Public Safety Radio systems in new construction. This has always been an issue for the Fire Service but now is increasingly becoming one for Law Enforcement. Clearly providing for this type of coverage has technical ramifications and will require close coordination between building owners, building officials and Public Safety Radio licensees. At this time the SIEC will continue to gather data, and reply to any technical requests brought forward by the State or local Fire Marshals, Building Officials or Public Safety Chiefs

New Business:

- Subsequent to a series of exercises Clayton Northgraves, John Gustafson and Scott Wright met with Chief Dooley of Southern CT State University to discuss several interoperability issues. Development of a plan is ongoing.
- Marc Mikulski reported on the progress of the Blue Plan for Region 2; back up lists being developed will assist in establishing a mutual aid communications plan.
- John Gustafson reported on an effort by the State University System to implement the Mutual Link system, which will allow the State University Police departments to share real time video and other data directly with the State and Local PD dispatch center in the communities in which they reside.

Correspondence:

Correspondence received suggesting changes to the communications configuration and dispatch procedure for the State Foam Trailers. The suggested change to dispatch procedures does not fall under the purview of the SIEC, however the suggested communication technology changes does.

The Dispatch issues will be forwarded to the agencies responsible, and the SIEC Technical Committee, will review the technology suggestions and report back. (email attached)

Interoperable Grant Fund Approvals:

- Portable Radio in Town of Somers approved

Next Meeting:

February 19, 2019 1:00 PM – DESPP 1111 Country Club Rd – Room 349

The 2019 meeting schedule has been established and posted with the Secretary of the State.

Adjourn:

Motion made by Keith Victor, seconded Bob DiBella to adjourn at 1:57pm.
All in favor.

Recorded by: Sandra Baker – CT-DEMHS